

REMARKS

Claims 13, 14, 19 and 20 currently remain in the application. Claims 1-12 and 15-18 have been canceled, claims 19 and 20 are new claims and claims 13 and 14 are herein amended.

In response to the document entitled Amendment "F" After Final Action mailed November 19, 2007, the Examiner stated in said Advisory Action that the proposed amendment therein would not be entered because they raised new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. The present RCE is therefore being submitted to have such consideration and/or search to be effected. Thus, the claims section is herein amended in the same way presented in said Amendment "F" After Final Action and applicant is herein presenting the same argument as before against the Examiner's rejection in said Final Action. For the convenience of the Examiner, applicant's argument presented in the REMARKS section of said Amendment "F" After Final Action is reproduced hereinbelow as follows.

Claims 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Mahoney in view of Matsuo and Atushi. In Paragraph 3 on page 4 of said Final Office Action, the Examiner considered the arguments presented previously by applicant and commented thereupon by stating that "the claims do not limit the composition of the thermistor element and the resistive outer layer to have the exact same principal components, nor do the claims require that no plating occur on the surface of the resistive outer layer." In view of this response from the Examiner, applicant is amending the claims section as shown above, by amending claims 13 and 14 and adding new claims 19 and 20.

Independent claim 13 is herein amended firstly by making it clear that the ceramic material for the resistive outer layer has a principal component that is the same as that of the ceramic thermistor element. As described in the specification and explained throughout the prosecution, this is why the desired intimate contact can be accomplished.

Independent claim 13 is amended secondly by inserting an explanatory and phrase and slightly modifying expression for more tightly establishing grammatical relationships between words and their antecedents. This amendment related more to forms than to the essence of the invention.

The amendment effected to dependent claim 14 is merely for corresponding to the amendment effected to claim 13 for tightening up the grammatical relationships between

words.

New dependent claims 19 and 20 are herein introduced to further limit claims 13 and 14, respectively, by requiring that the plating process is carried out such that no plating would occur on the surface of the resisting outer layer. This is again in response to the comment by the Examiner in said Final Office Action.

As admitted by the Examiner in page 5 of the Official Letter, Matsuo and Atushi were evidently cited merely for disclosing that various ceramic compositions falling within the scope of the claims prior to the amendments effected herein. By the amendments effected herein, applicant is now showing that unexpected results are indeed obtained by the present invention as results of using the claimed compositions and carrying out the plating process.

It is therefore believed, for the reasons presented in the REMARKS section of said Amendment "F" After Final Action, that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

/Keiichi Nishimura/

Keiichi Nishimura
Registration No. 29,093

December 14, 2007
BEYER WEAVER LLP
500 12th Street, Suite 200
Oakland, California 94607
Telephone: (510) 663-1100
Telefax: (510) 663-0920